originally laid out, it was intended that Mr. Boulanger's should be removed, but lately he had increased his terms so that they could not be listened to.

Mr. Peteradorff then addressed the bench, and asked seriously whether there had been such a violation of the Act as to warrant the destruction of the seven houses named in this information. The legislature, he contended, never intended to interfere in any way with buildings in existence or in progress, as the Act has no operation on streets, buildings, or matters referring to buildings commenced before 1845, and he was not aware to what extent they were required to be completed to bring them out of the reach of the operation of this Act. He did not think it was necessary that every house should be commenced to be protected, for he might assume for argument that No. 2 was begun, No. 4 begun, No. 3 not touched, and No. 1 considerably advanced: in such a case, he would ask, was the entire line to be destroyed? The legislature never entertained any thing so absurd.

Mr. Secker took time to consider his decision, and on the re-assembling of the parties on Monday he delivered his judgment. He was of opinion that the line had been laid out before the passing of the Act, and that the alley or street was fit for use by the public having passed over it. He, therefore, felt bound to dismiss the information.

This decision, consequently, nullifies the whole proceedings of the official referees.

ARCHITECTURE AT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

The distribution of the prizes at University College took place on the 1st instant. Sir H. De la Beche was in the chair. Professor Donaldson had, during the session, which commenced in the middle of October, 1846, and had continued until the middle of June last, visited with his classes the British Museum, St. Paul's Cathedral, and Westminster Abbey; describing to his pupils the antiquities in our national collection, and the architectural and structural points of the two last named edifices; pointing out especially the construction of the various parts. The series of questions which the classes had to answer, embraced all the subjects treated of in the course of the 110 lectures delivered at the college. The prizes were awarded as follows:—

FIRST YEAR'S COURSE.

Fine Art.—Charles Poland, 1st prize and 1st certificate; Unknown, 2nd prize and 2nd certificate.

Science — Construction.—H. Darbishire, 1st prize and 1st certificate; Charles Poland, 2nd prize and 2nd certificate; Unknown, 3rd certificate.

SECOND YEAR'S COURSE.

Fine Art.—W. Tarue, 1st prize and 1st certificate; G. B. Smith, 2nd prize and 2nd certificate; J. W. Mc Kenzie, 3rd certificate.

Science—Construction.—G. P. Boyce, 1st prize and 1st certificate; W. Tarue, 2nd prize and 2nd certificate; G. B. Smith, 3rd certificate.

It had been unusual to award second prizes, but the professor was so well satisfied with the replies second in order, that he was permitted to add another prize.

From some irregularity, the pupil who obtained the 2nd prize in fine art, first year, and the 3rd certificate for science, had omitted to give in his corresponding number into the office, so that they could not be awarded.

The professor is anxious that the author of the papers numbered 54 should call upon him.

We learnt with satisfaction that the class of architecture at University College had increased in numbers one-half beyond those of the preceding session.

The Cow.—The site of a house in Newgate-street, the rent of which has fallen in, is to be appropriated to widening the street. A petition to Parliament against intramural burial has been agreed to. Some city ground at Holloway is to be appropriated to the erection of a new reservoir. The salary of Mr. Bunning, the clerk of the city's works, has been increased to 2,500*l.*

NOTES IN THE PROVINCES.

The Incorporated church building and repairing society have granted money towards the rebuilding of the churches of St. Dogmell's, near Cardigan; Llanfyhangel-y-Pennant, near Tremadoc; and Llangoed, near Carmarthen; towards the erection of churches at Sighill at Earsdon, Baldhie near Truro, St. Jude's in Bristol, Pimlico, and Lyne at Chertsey; and for the enlarging, &c. of churches at Chudleigh, Thorpe, Northallerton, Tichbourne, Chignall, Smealley, and Stokenchurch.——At the Suffolk quarter sessions instructions were lately given either to repair East Bridge, or build a new one, at a cost not exceeding 200*l.* It is also proposed to rebuild St Olave's Bridge by loans on rates exhaustible in fourteen years. The plans and specifications were lodged. Messrs. Perry and Garner's tender of 555*l.* for a temporary bridge was accepted by the committee, and the contract for building the permanent bridge was ordered to be prepared on receipt of tenders.——Plans by Mr. Round, architect, have been selected for a church at Penge, near Sydenham, Surrey, for the use of the watermen's almspeople and others. Her Majesty the queen dowager has presented a donation towards the erection.——The lowest tender for the masonry and brickwork of the proposed improvement of St. Mary's churchyard, Southampton, was that of Mr. W. Morse, builder, and for the iron-work, that of Mr. J. Churton. They were a few pounds above the surveyor's estimate, and more than the fund subscribed.——Some planks on an iron frame, supporting the pavement of the Worcester bridge, have proved to be in a rotten state, by the sudden sinking of one or two of the flags. Our contemporary, the *Worcester Journal*, is looking to the safety of the public, both above bridge and below, in crossing these 'rotten planks,' till something better be substituted. ——The lamentations of the Tauntonians on account of the 'very dirty' and unhealthy state of their town and its bad drainage have not yet ceased, notwithstanding the mighty projects started from time to time in order to put a period to their existence. A recent correspondent of the *Somerset Gazette* attributes the defective drainage chiefly to the substitution of macadam in place of the old pitched causeway, on the 'crown' of which the higher-minded order of the ancestorial inhabitants of towns of old were wont to walk in stately majesty. The inconsiderable fall towards the river is also pointed to as a cause, but so long as the alleged want of general communication with the main drains continues, nothing like cleanliness or health need be hoped for.—— The foundation-stone of a new school-room, for the Cheltenham charity schools, was laid on Thursday week. —— Owing to the decay of the surface of the stone of which the Hereford Shire-hall is built, says *Felix Farley*, it has been found necessary to give it a coating of boiled oil. This plan of 'doing' the hall 'in oil' seems hardly to comport with the dignity and beauty of the Doric architecture, giving the building, as it does, a soaked leather aspect.——From reports read at the Herefordshire sessions, it appears, that repairs of several of the county bridges have been effected, and that others, particularly Little Hereford, Stretford, and Morbage bridges, are much in want of repair or improvement.——In a paragraph recently copied by our contemporaries of the newspaper press, it was stated, that "the Woods and Forests, which formerly promised the strand of the Birkenhead Docks, have now laid claim to the margin of the Wallasley Pool, on which the docks are erected," and that "the Government, also, which promised a subsidy of 50,000*l.* to aid the works, now states that it has not the requisite power; and consequently, the company has determined to close the works. The corporation of Liverpool," it was added, "have also put in a claim to the strand." It has since been announced, however, by the *Liverpool Herald*, that the docks have been re-opened, "the resolution moved by the chairman of the Dock Commissioners at their last meeting, having been found to be illegal," and that "the commissioners have taken the best steps they can to remedy the evil effects likely to result from it."——The foundations of the extension of the Manchester Royal Infirmary have been begun, and the ceremonial stone was to be laid to-day (Thursday).——The first stone of Trinity Church, Wicker district, Sheffield, founded by Messrs Harrison, was laid on Friday last.—— Mr. Thomas German, of Preston, has given a thousand pounds for the erection of a tower and spire to the church of St. Peter's, in that town.——In a recent charge, Archdeacon Wilberforce stated that one-eighth of the churches in the East Riding of Yorkshire had been restored or rebuilt within the last seven years.——Our town council, says the *Newcastle Advertiser*, have evinced their sense of the importance of sanitary reform by taking steps for enforcing some of the most valuable clauses of the town improvement Act. An excellent precedent. ——The foundation-stone of the Wesleyan chapel and school-room at Witten-park Ironworks, says the *Gateshead Observer*, was laid on 24th ult. The proprietors of the works have presented the site and the stone: subscriptions received, about 100*l.*——Upwards of 500 workmen are now employed at the Sunderland docks, the several contractors working with energy at 'double shift,' to suit the tides. In a few days, says the *Sunderland Herald* the further letting of the excavation of the wet dock and half-tide basin, together with the building of the walls round the same, will require a further large number of hands. ——A joint-stock Water-work Company, according to the *Carlisle Journal*, is about to be formed at Penrith, on a report, by Mr. James Simpson, the engineer of the Carlisle Waterworks.——The Berwick barracks, according to the *Berwick Warder*, have recently undergone extensive repairs, in compliance with an order from the Board of Ordnance to that effect. ——Another of the Scottish granaries has given way at Craigie, Perthshire, under the enormity of the load of its accumulated treasures. "More granaries throughout the country have fallen within the last six months" says the *Edinburgh Register*, "than during the previous sixty years—certainly no proof of the scarcity so loudly asserted to exist in the land." Yet it was not from the weight of well-filled stomachs, that the Perthshire highlanders were brought down upon their marrow bones.—— The Town Hall of Linlithgow, was completely destroyed by fire on Thursday week. It is supposed that the burning rays of the sun ignited the old wood of the roof, probably, as suggested in another instance by a correspondent of our own, while the wood, so reduced to 'touchwood,' was in contact with iron made hot by the same means. Thus the necessity for a watchful repair of such old structures is always great, as the risk is imminent.——The average daily number of persons employed on the Relief Works in Ireland, during the week ending 19th June amounted to 60,288, and the total cost thereof to 28,835*l.* The road works were all stopped on 19th June, previously to new arrangements on a reduced scale.

DUTY ON BRICKS, PAPER, AND LIGHT.

Mr. Ewart, M.P., in the course of an able speech in favour of direct rather than indirect taxation, recently delivered, made the following remarks, to which too large a circulation cannot be given.

The duty on paper he held to be a most objectionable tax. Its levy cost much vexatious interference. An account, he believed, must be taken of the daily produce of the paper-manufacturer. The number of sheets in every ream must be given. Every ream must be labelled: every label must be written on. If the paper he afterwards destined for exportation, the label must be removed. All this was interference; and it was a tax of the most intolerable kind in this age, because it was *a tax upon time*. To tax the *time* of the trader, was (in his, Mr. Ewart's eyes) one of the greatest fiscal offences that could be committed. Yet, in all these little matters, the workman must attend the steps of the excise-officer. He believed that our paper-manufacturers were undersold abroad, notwithstanding that a drawback was allowed on the paper which was exported. This disadvantage he could only attribute to interference with the trade. If emancipated, it would probably expand into full freedom, like the glass-trade. Even now it had a latent tendency to do so. A manufacture of paper from straw had been

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